



MEETING MINUTES

DATE: January 27, 2025, at 3:00 pm

LOCATION: Parks and Recreation Administration Building
2154 Landstown Road, Virginia Beach, Virginia 23456

1. WELCOME & ATTENDANCE ROLL CALL

Chair Bernick called the meeting to order at 3:00pm. Recorder Trina Harrell called the role.

Name	Role or Association	Attend
Clay Bernick	Chair	√
Jarrold L. Katzer	Vice Chair	√
Richard "Tuck" Bowie	Committee Member	√
Vincent Bowhers	Committee Member	√
Francis Drumm	Committee Member	√
William W. Fleming	Committee Member	√
Maury Hill	Committee Member	√
Dianna McDowell	Committee Member	√
Jenny Perry	Committee Member	√
Stephen Rockefeller	Committee Member	Ab
Gavin Wehr	Student Member	√
Cooper Stuart	Student Member	√
Liaisons		
Barbara Henley	City Council Member	
Joashua Schulman	City Council Member	
City Staff		
Corinna Green	Parks and Recreation	√
Trina Harrell	Parks and Recreation	√
Lucia Whitlow	City Attorney's Office	√
Guests		
None		

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES: December 2, 2024

A motion made by Dianna McDowell seconded by William Fleming to approve the December 2, 2024, minutes, passed unanimously.

3. NEW BUSINESS

- a. Comprehensive Plan Update & Input – tabled
- b. 2025 Meeting Dates – A motion made by Maury Hill seconded by Francis Drumm to accept the proposed 2025 meeting dates as listed on the agenda, passed unanimously.

4. OLD BUSINESS

- a. Finalize Member Guidebook - Vice Chair Katzer thanked the members for their input and advised comments were incorporated. Additional input is still pending but he expects to send the finished product in a few weeks for a final review before adoption at the next meeting.
- b. Green Ribbon Liaison – Chair Bernick thanked Vincent Bowhers for serving as a liaison, but his schedule doesn't permit him to continue this additional duty.

5. REPORTS

- a. City Council Liaisons – no report
- b. Student Members – Assisted in harvesting native trees, shrubs and grasses
 - Thanked Public Works staff for grids at Pleasure House Point
 - Tree estimates were confirmed by groundwork
- c. Parks and Recreation Commission – no report
- d. Virginia Beach Parks and Recreation Foundation (VBPRF) – no report
- e. Green Ribbon Committee – Gavin Wehr and Cooper Stuart will bring forth shared topics.
- f. LRNOW – Vincent Bowhers
 - Cleanup at Francis Land House was canceled due to weather, delayed until March
 - Upcoming cleanup will be February 8th at MOCA
 - Participating in Winter Wildlife Festival events
 - Submitted a letter in support of the PHP Mitigation Bank
 - 2024 Cleanups – 3,083 volunteer hours removed 23,449 lbs. of debris
- g. Active Transportation Advisory Committee – Maury Hill
 - 1. A six-foot wide path is planned for Violet Bank Trail.
 - 2. Comprehensive Plan Update from Hank Morrison
 - Additional workshops with Planning Commission as needed. Public meetings and additional briefings to Planning Commission and City Council expected in February/March. Planning Commission Hearing /Recommendation followed by City Council Briefing and Vote expected in the spring.
 - 3. Estimated attendance between 3,000 and 4,000 people participated in the First Day Hike to walk through the Boardwalk light display on the evening of January 1st.
 - 4. Department FY26 budget request submitted in November includes new projects and increase costs on current projects. The VB Trail design is 30% complete but anticipated to have a \$12M shortfall due to increased costs. Original \$19.5M budget had significant grant support.
 - 5. Anticipated discussion at the upcoming City Council meeting regarding potential rezoning part of the ITA for light industrial use. ATAC members were encouraged to stay informed.
- h. Workgroups – no report

6. CITIZEN COMMENTS

No comments.

7. ADJOURN AND UPCOMING MEETINGS & EVENTS

- a. Ms. Green reviewed VB Map online to show toggling on/off different features.
- b. Winter Wildlife Festival – January 24th – February 2nd, 2025
- c. Next Open Space Advisory Committee Meeting February 24th, 2025

There being no further business, the Chair entertained a motion to adjourn the meeting. A motion was made by Richard "Tuck" Bowie and seconded by Francis Drumm to adjourn the meeting at 3:45pm.

H.C. Bernick, III

Clay Bernick, Chair

Trina M. Harrell

Trina Harrell, Recorder

Distribution:

Mayor and City Council

Patrick Duhaney, City Manager

Parks and Recreation Commission

Open Space Advisory Committee

Kenneth Chandler, Deputy City Manager

Lucia Whitlow, City Attorney's Office

Kaitlyn James, Budget and Management Services

Kathy Warren, Planning Director

Emily Archer, Planning/SGA Office

David Trimmer, Agriculture Director

L.J. Hansen, Public Works Director

Kristal Johnson, Public Works/Real Estate

Michael Kirschman, Parks and Recreation Director

Frank Fentress, Parks and Recreation, Landscape Services

Parks and Recreation staff present